



INTERPED

Interoperable cloud-based
solution for cross-vector
planning and management
of Positive Energy Districts

Newsletter #4

August 2026

Welcome to the fourth edition of the InterPED Newsletter!

The first half of 2026 has been marked by **strong collaboration**, **knowledge exchange**, and **continued progress** across the InterPED project. From our **5th Plenary Meeting in Lugano** to **European clustering activities**, **cross-project collaboration**, and **international conferences**, InterPED has continued to demonstrate how **interoperable technologies**, **citizen engagement**, and **collective innovation** are helping shape the future of **Positive Energy Districts (PEDs)**.

In this edition, we look back at our consortium meeting in Switzerland, participation in the **BRIDGE General Assembly**, knowledge exchange events on **thermal energy storage** and **renewable energy integration**, and our contributions to one of Europe's leading **energy efficiency conferences**. Together, these activities highlight how InterPED is advancing both **technological** and **social innovation** while strengthening collaboration across **Europe's energy research and innovation community**.

We hope you enjoy the read,

The InterPED Team



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101138047. Co-Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or CINEA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

Project Highlights | January – June 2026

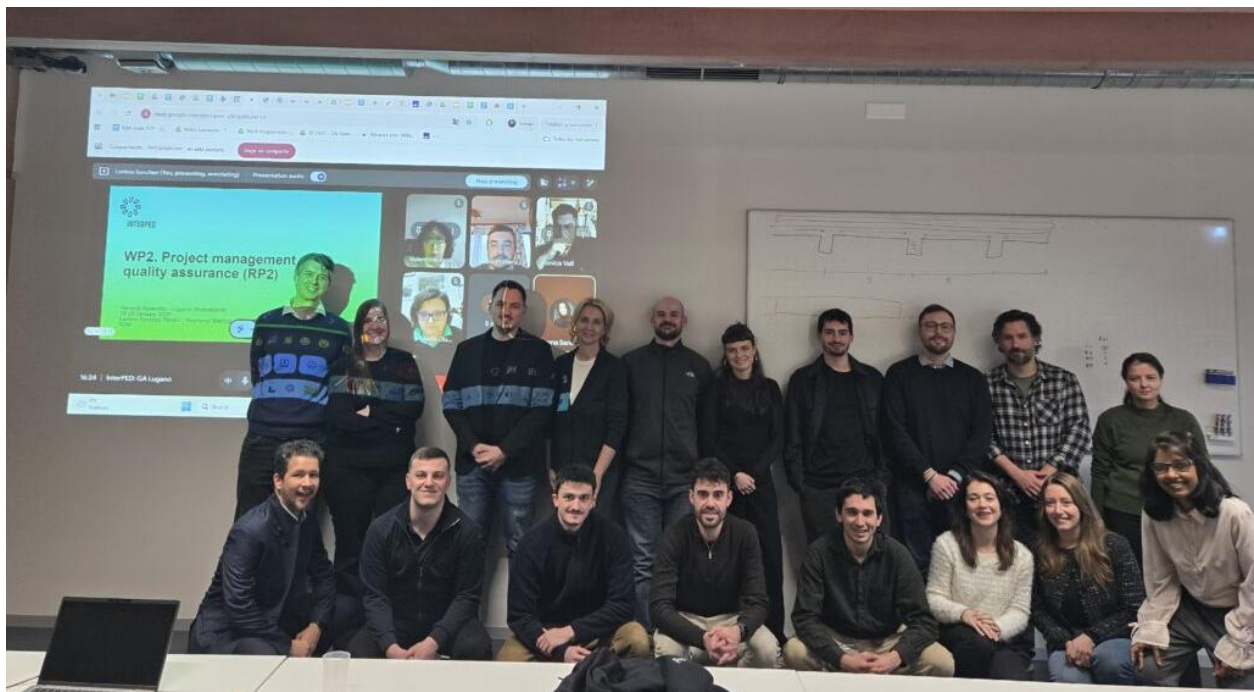
InterPED's 5th Plenary Meeting in Lugano

28–29 January 2026 | Lugano, Switzerland

At the end of January, the InterPED consortium gathered in Lugano for the project's **5th Plenary Meeting**, hosted by our partners **AEM and SUPSI**. Over two days, partners reviewed technical progress, aligned activities across work packages, and visited the **Arena Innovation Community** pilot site in Capriasca.

The General Assembly included a dedicated **Pilots Workshop**, where representatives from all four pilot sites—**Lugaritz-Matía Community, Findhorn Ecovillage, Arena Innovation Community, and Alba Iulia College District**—shared recent developments, lessons learned, and experiences implementing Positive Energy District solutions in different local contexts.

The second day featured a visit to the Arena Innovation Community, providing partners with first-hand insight into how innovative energy solutions are being deployed in a real-world environment. The meeting reinforced **cross-consortium collaboration** and strengthened the shared vision of developing **interoperable, scalable, and citizen-centred PED solutions**.



[!\[\]\(de95854c7ee024cfadc48187bbb781b2_img.jpg\) Read more about InterPED's 5th Plenary Meeting](#)



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InterPED at the BRIDGE General Assembly 2026

23–24 March 2026 | Brussels, Belgium & Online

InterPED participated in the **BRIDGE General Assembly 2026**, joining Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020 projects, European Commission representatives, and energy stakeholders to discuss the future of **smart grids, energy storage, digitalisation, and citizen-centred energy systems**.

The annual BRIDGE gathering provided an important platform for **knowledge exchange, collaboration, and policy dialogue**, highlighting how European research projects can work together to accelerate the clean energy transition. Discussions focused on scaling innovative solutions, strengthening cross-project cooperation, and aligning research outcomes with policy and market needs.

As an active contributor to the **Data Management** and **Consumers and Citizen Engagement** Working Groups, InterPED continues to support discussions on **interoperability, data exchange, and citizen participation**, helping shape recommendations that facilitate the deployment of **Positive Energy Districts** across Europe.

By participating in the BRIDGE community, InterPED reinforces its commitment to collaboration, ensuring that project results contribute to a broader European ecosystem working towards **climate-neutral and resilient energy systems**.



[Read more about InterPED at the BRIDGE General Assembly 2026](#)

InterPED Participates in Knowledge Exchange Forum on Thermal Energy Storage

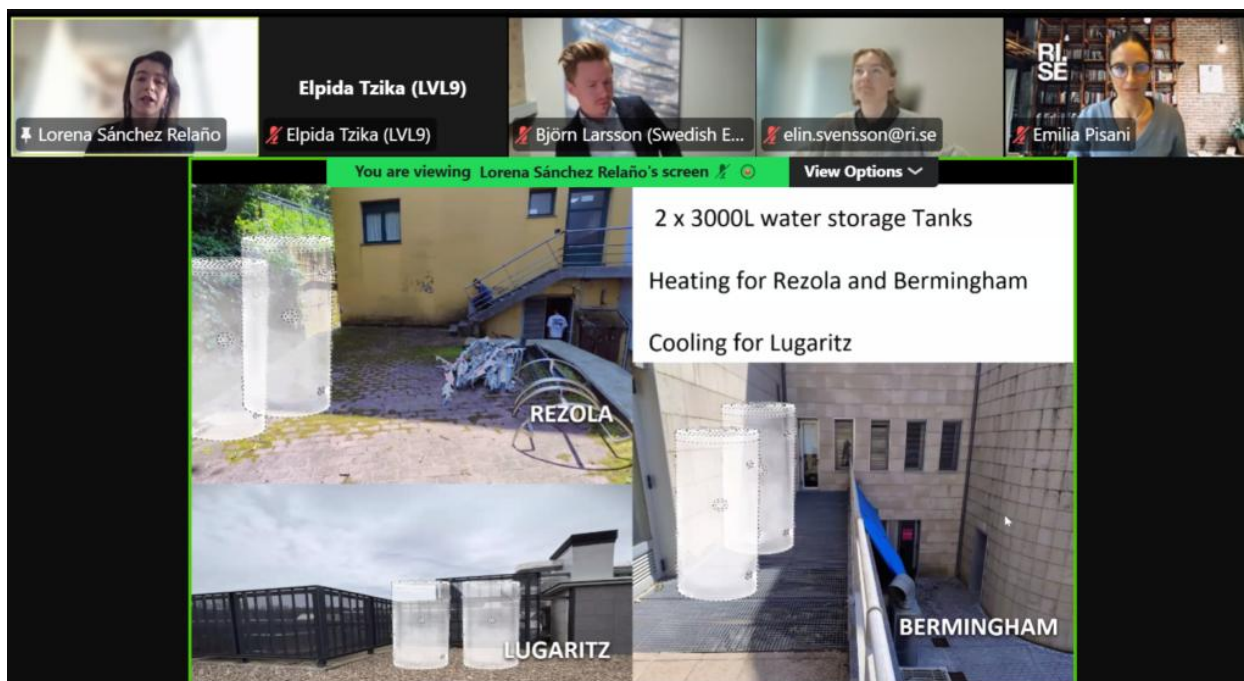
14 April 2026 | Online

InterPED joined the joint **Knowledge Exchange Forum** co-organised with the **ThumbsUp project**, bringing together more than **40 experts** to explore the role of **Thermal Energy Storage (TES)** in Positive Energy Districts.

The event examined how TES can evolve from **building-level applications to district-wide energy systems**, highlighting its contribution to **flexibility, renewable energy integration, and system resilience**.

InterPED presented its pilot in **San Sebastián, Spain**, demonstrating how thermal storage tanks combined with **Model Predictive Control (MPC)** can anticipate demand, optimise energy use, reduce peak loads, and improve overall system performance. The session also addressed practical implementation challenges, including **stakeholder coordination** and the integration of storage technologies within complex urban environments.

The forum provided an excellent opportunity to exchange knowledge with sister projects and strengthen collaboration towards **more integrated and scalable PED solutions**.



[Read more about the Knowledge Exchange Forum](#)

InterPED Presented During the ASCEND Project Café

28 April 2026 | Online

InterPED participated in the ASCEND Project Café dedicated to renewable energy sources, energy storage, and urban energy system integration.

Representatives from cities, research organisations, and Horizon Europe projects exchanged experiences on implementing integrated energy solutions in urban environments. During the session, InterPED partner Alba Iulia presented the project's pilot activities at the Dorin Pavel Technical College in Romania.

The presentation showcased the development of an integrated energy management ecosystem combining photovoltaic installations, battery storage, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and an advanced energy management platform supporting local optimisation and virtual energy community testing.

The event reinforced collaboration with sister projects and highlighted the importance of interoperability and integrated energy management for climate-neutral cities..

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. On the left, a presentation slide titled "INTERPED Dorin Pavel Tech College" lists project details: a complex of 7 buildings (1976), existing 3 old PV systems (2010, 150W/panel, 3kW single phase inverters – no reporting, 130 kW) PV1, 2, 3, FV4 - New 20 kW PV + 13,8 kWh storage, FV5, 6, 7 – planned 3 x 11kW new PVs, location subject of major renovations, energy management platform under installation, and testing virtual community. The main part of the slide is a satellite map of the Dorin Pavel Tech College campus with various energy infrastructure labeled: PV1, PV2, PV3, PV4, PV5, PV6, PV7, Transformer and general meter, Public parking, Building 1 Heat plant, Building 2 Workshop, Building 3 Sport hall, Building 4 High school, Building 5 Secondary school & offices, Building 6 Hostel, Building 7 Hostel, Project for standard charger 2 x 22 kW, and Slow charger 7 kW. On the right, there are three video thumbnails of participants: Tudor D., Simion Adrian, and a group of 16 others. The bottom of the screen shows the Zoom control bar with a timestamp of 3:23 PM and a meeting ID of hbc-xkcr-nsp.

[Read more about InterPED at the ASCEND Project Café](#)

InterPED Showcases Citizen Engagement Research at the eceee Summer Study 2026

1–6 June 2026 | Lac d'Ailette, France

InterPED contributed to the eceee Summer Study 2026, one of Europe's leading conferences on energy efficiency, where researchers from Heriot-Watt University presented the project's latest work on citizen engagement and energy literacy in Positive Energy Districts.

As part of Panel 5: Sustainable Communities, Dr Andrew Peacock and Dr Tasniva Rahman presented InterPED's methodological framework for supporting citizen participation in energy communities and introduced the peer-reviewed paper:

“Rethinking Citizen Engagement in Energy Communities.”

In addition, the team facilitated the interactive workshop

“Co-Creating an Energy Literacy Framework.”

The workshop brought together researchers and practitioners to explore practical approaches for improving energy literacy and strengthening community participation in future PEDs.

The conference highlighted the importance of combining technological innovation with social innovation, ensuring that citizens remain active contributors to Europe's clean energy transition.



[!\[\]\(35e4f762fc1cfea5610d92e2d225d5b4_img.jpg\) Read more about InterPED at the eceee Summer Study 2026](#)

Looking Ahead

As InterPED enters the second half of 2026, the project will continue validating its innovative solutions across the four pilot sites while strengthening collaboration with European initiatives working towards climate-neutral cities and Positive Energy Districts.

In the coming months, the consortium will further advance interoperability, forecasting, flexibility services, and citizen engagement activities, while sharing new scientific results and participating in major European events.

Stay connected with InterPED for the latest news, publications, and upcoming activities.

[!\[\]\(8d0f0e0fe25b320c33272c52aec1fbca_img.jpg\) Follow InterPED online for upcoming events and project updates](#)

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